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A Report of the Cases of Messrs. Kirwan and Sheridan in the Court of King's Bench; by Wm. Ridgeway, esq. Barrister at law.

Observations on the present state of the Paper Currencies of Great Britain and Ireland. 1s. 1d.—Belfast, Printed.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

JANUARY, the gate of the year, opens on the world with war, indefinite, interminable war. Ancient Rome kept the temple of *Janus* always open by such indefinite and interminable war. The gates of this temple never were to close, until she had conquered all, and the administration of the day appears as desirous to keep the gates open 'till all shall be conquered. How various and versatile the pretexts of Roman ambition. For the succour of their allies; for the union and incorporation of Italy; for the destruction of rival Carthage; for turning in a different direction the plebeian plots in pursuit of equal privileges and perfect emancipation; for the relief of unfortunate Princes; for the downfall of that tyrant and monster, Mithridates; for the liberties of Greece!—and equally changeful is the Proteus of modern policy.

For the destruction of a revolutionary government; for a change of character and mode of thinking in France, for security against armed opinions; for repressing republican doctrine, and practice; for the conquest of France; for the liberation of Europe; for the monarchy of the ocean; for personal antipathy to the tyrant and monster Bonaparte; for indemnity as to the past, and security as to the future; for a rock in the Mediterranean, for our faithful ally the Czar of all the Russias; for the rights, independence and exclusive religion of Catholic Spain, including the Inquisition; and, at length, specifically, for such a system of intestine and predatory warfare as is said "to be peculiarly adapted to the actual condition of the Spanish nation, and best suited to their situation and means."

Sorry indeed are we to see "the

pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war," as it is called in the military vocabulary, dwindle and degenerate into a species of hostility which has no tendency to procure victory, and turns legitimate war into a system, (no, not a system) but an anarchy of vengeance and pillage, and assassination. Even a civil war although it breaks the bands of government, and in some measure of society itself, does not suspend the maxims of humanity and moderation. But miserable indeed is the state of that country where to the horrors of a civil and (worse still) a religious war, is added the rule of retaliation, that is, the rule of *mutual injustice*; because one party is used with cruelty, the other party must behave with the same inhumanity in return. And thus, by increasing degrees of exasperation, every thing generous, honorable, or magnanimous in war degenerates into what may be well entitled the savagery of civilized life; and the law of nations dissolves into a state of nature.

Retaliation, absurd and monstrous retaliation, becomes not merely the casual practice of sanguinary parties, but rises into a great, actuating, and acknowledged principle of state policy, and the pith of diplomatic communications.

War is no longer isolated to the field of battle. Indeed the great array of battle seems to have ceased. The hostile armies are mutually defensive, for nothing honorable, nothing warlike can be applied to the *Guerillas* except their name. They partake in all the criminality of war, without possessing a spark of its glory, and are only human bloodhounds who are taught to pull and tear their prostrate and bleeding country. The sufferings and privations of war are now felt, not merely in the field, but in the home-

stead and manufactory. The works of human industry are made the subject of cruel reprisal. One power burns them on land; another sinks them in the ocean. The voluntary destruction of public monuments, of temples, tombs, statues, and all works that do honour to human society has been deservedly reprobated, but *retaliation* once adopted as a practical principle, never fails to proceed with accumulating violence and outrage of human feelings. Hostility then degenerates from the sword in hand, to the proscription of human labour, and international, assumes all the rancour and vindictiveness of civil war.

While Lord Wellington lies in different cantonments in the front of an impregnable station, to which, at any time, he can safely retire, the dissensions natural to a protracted war, and a long continued siege, have taken place at Cadiz between the Spanish Regency, and the British Resident. The former demanding a large loan or subsidy for the relief of an exhausted treasury, and, in the lowest ebb of credit, being obliged to suspend the payment of their army, with no resources from the provinces, little expected from the colonies, and all their local revenues taken up in supporting the various officers of the *civil* government. The British resident, it is said, has positively refused the loan, having but little reliance from past experience, of an honest appropriation of the money. The honourable acquittal of their General La Pena, in his conduct at the battle of Barrosa, and the desire to re-instate him in his former command, must widen the breach between the British and Spanish governments. It seems to share in the fatality attendant on all former coalitions. There is something in the continental and in the insular character, which can only

be brought into a sort of assimilation, by the extraordinary pressure of accidental circumstances, but which again falls asunder at the touch of misfortune. This latent animosity and irreconcilability of character is less apt to produce serious consequences when there is room for separate action. Like gun-powder scattered, it evaporates by expansion. But when concentrated, and compressed together as at Cadiz, it is the more apt, on a sudden, to explode, with calamitous effect.

Is there no reason to fear that the war is purposely protracted by Napoleon, from the confidence founded on experience, and indeed on the nature of things, that an ill-assorted combination will *of itself* dissolve, particularly, when this dissolution is accelerated by various adverse circumstances; on the one part, the weariness of a fruitless war, and perhaps the sympathy with their ravaged and oppressed country, and, on the other part, the inutility of any further reliance on perverse folly and, perhaps, secret understanding with the enemy. Napoleon, in such case, need only be a spectator. His military agency would consolidate, what his aim is to divide, and dissolve.

In the mean time, for this purpose, or as a masque for other purposes, by his land-press, or law of conscription, he recruits his armies with 120,000 men. Thus *he* enters upon the year. And yet, at this critical season, a rumour goes abroad, that the government of Ireland is dissatisfied with the commander in chief of the forces in this island on account of his general orders, that the soldiery should in future avoid any tokens of party distinctions; that they should confine themselves to military duty and regulated dress, without becoming political partizans, and hazarding the unity of the ar-

my and the safety of the state. Sir Ralph Abercrombie's observation when commander in chief, is well remembered and gave sufficient umbrage. General Fox, gave offence to government, by suffering soldiers to appear in the streets without side arms, and took offence for not receiving, in his high and responsible character, the least intimation from civil authority of any expected disturbance. Lord Harrington is the third commander in chief, whose conduct as military men has been more mild, tolerant, and assuasive than that of the civil power.

The truth is that the high honour of a generous soldier inclines to clemency. It feels a natural reluctance to subserve the petty, peevish persecutions of the Castle. In the occupation of watching a country, it feels itself awkward and somewhat indignant, and rather than make a civil war "*EXPLODE*," it would crush the germs of intestine discord, by a spirit of magnanimous conciliation. "*Equitate quam sanguine; causa quam armis.*"

An highly important state paper is given among the Documents. It is interesting, as indicating the views and temper of a large majority of the American people, and government; and may be valuable to be referred to at a future day, in case the madness of hostile counsels, and the assertion of domineering over neutrals, or more properly speaking, of the tyranny of the seas, should drive the British empire into open war with the United States. The Report of the Committee of the House of Representatives, on that part of the President's Message which relates to foreign affairs, is a production evidently drawn by a masterly hand, and manifests the settled principles on which the Americans are determined to act. They place commerce only as a secondary object,

subordinate to the preservation of their rights as a nation, and put most prominently forward the invasions on natural liberty, by the impressment of their sailors into the British navy. They declare, that "*the committee are not of that sect, whose worship is at the shrine of a calculating avarice.*" These expressions give an insight into their policy. Rather than expose their citizens on the seas to repeated insults, they appear determined either to arm and repel force by force, or withdrawing from foreign commerce, to concentrate their mighty and growing energies in the pursuits of agriculture, and domestic manufactures. Already they have made themselves in a great measure independent of European importations, by the extension of their cotton, linen, and woollen manufactures. A few years more of commercial hostility, like that which has been the case, since issuing the fatal orders in council, or of more open and direct warfare, will unfold their manufacturing capabilities, and leave them few wants to be supplied from Great Britain and Ireland, even on the return of peace: and having once learned to do without the manufactures of Europe, they will continue to stand more erect and alone.

A disposition unfriendly to America has long prevailed, and many have not, even since the peace of 1783, overcome their prejudices in favour of British supremacy, or forgiven the United States for asserting their independence. It is rather fashionable to abuse them both in conversation, and in print. Britain is a haughty nation, and would wish to have all the world subservient to her supposed interests, and to treat all other nations, as if existing only for her exclusive use. "See man for mine," is their arrogant and assuming tone. Such conduct is unbecoming, even

in the height of prosperity, but it becomes ridiculous, when a long train of adverse circumstances, the effects of fifty years mismanagement, has compelled a people to stand lower in the view of all others, but themselves.

In the present negotiations, the ministry, with the fears attendant on little minds, dread to be outwitted, and substitute cunning for wisdom. Munroe, in his correspondence with Foster, plainly notices this disposition, and the little shifts, to which the British cabinet have recourse, lest they should be outwitted by the French in not having withdrawn their decrees, if they give up their orders. He tells his diplomatic correspondent, "that Britain prefers to be unjust, rather than be supposed to be out-manceuvred." Although France has withdrawn her decrees, as far as the United States are concerned, Britain retains her orders in council, and by repeatedly shifting ground, betrays the weakness of her cause, and the impotency of her negociators and statesmen. The tortuous windings of cunning generally accompany the assertion of a bad cause, by weak men, and in the final result are ill-matched against the straight-forward efforts of a firm and honest policy. Cunning may appear to gain advantages, but mostly falls a dupe to its own artifices. A dignified concession on the part of Britain, is only likely to regain America.

The late accounts from America, state that the resolutions, with which the report of the committee on foreign affairs was closed, have been passed by the house of representatives. Thus war appears to be determined on by America, and is consequently inevitable, unless the orders in council are rescinded. Great Britain has not long time left to determine on war, or concession, for the finesse of negotiation must

soon be closed. A brief and clear statement of the history of the British orders in council, and the French decrees will be found among the documents. They will assist the reader, from the comparison of dates, to form his opinion respecting those noted state papers which have operated to produce such important consequences, and so general an overturning in the commercial world, and in the system of trade.

Parliament met on the 7th inst. and, surely, since the earliest period of our history, never has the great council of the nation met on more grave and weighty affairs. The speech of the Prince Regent was delivered by Lords Commissioners, and may not an inference be made that he himself would have come down to Parliament, were he to have *personated* Royalty and not, merely, to have *represented* it. He may be said at present to act ministerially, the officer of the two houses, but when the period arrives of his possessing the full powers of Royalty, he will, *then*, speak from himself, when he shall act of himself; when in the words of Shakespear, "He can keep his state; be as a king, and show his sail of greatness."

This, at least, is the translation we wish to give of the speech, by *commission*; but it must be acknowledged, that such is the perplexing uncertainty in which we are still held with respect to the personal politics of the Prince, that we are unable to penetrate even through the thin future interposed between the present hour, and that of the unrestricted Regency. One little month and the fate and fortunes of this part of the empire will be decided. That, with all our belief in the versatility of self-interest, a minister who has pledged himself repeatedly as an anti-catholic minister, could possibly shape and accommodate himself to serve the Prince in the

same official character in which he was chosen, for the one single purpose, to serve his Royal Father, we deem scarcely possible, supposing that Prince be resolved on Catholic emancipation. Mr. Percival, in that case, cannot continue minister. No man could so falsify himself. And the only reason we can find for his now remaining minister, is that the Prince considers him as minister *quoad* the restrictions. What binds the Regent, binds him to the minister. The premier was, as it were, engrafted on the parliamentary procedure, and the Prince accepted of the joint encumbrance, in duty to his father whose case was then hopeful instead of being "all but hopeless," and with the view of shortly returning him the role as he had received it. "There is the crown—and he that wears the crown immortally, long keep it yours." In short, during the period of the restrictions, Mr. Percival might well make use of the terms "Ego et princeps," and whether it will run more agreeably to the English idiom, the Premier and the Prince, or the Prince and the Premier, a very short time will determine.

We sincerely acquit Mr. Percival of any design to become "King o'th Island." But we conceive he has no objection to be considered the head, or, *Regent* of the anti-catholic party in Great Britain. If there was, at one time, a general suspicion of something behind the throne, that was superior to the throne, there may be now as general fear, that, close by the *Regent's* chair will grow up, or has already grown up, a poisonous intolerance which suffers nothing great or generous to thrive under its shade, and which impedes the natural development of his virtues and best affections. He has to temporise with oligarchy in the state, and with prejudice

in the people, and with the combination of both; the dupery and delusion of the one, administering to the unconstitutional preponderance, and systematic cunning of the other.

The royal conscience no longer concentrated in the individual; and hitherto quietly confided in, as a sufficient obstacle to Catholic emancipation, and to an union really co-operative; is now become, *a stirring* principle of a very powerful party in church and state, who conceive, or wish to make others conceive, that the safety of both is in imminent danger. This party lay quiet under the safe-guard of the King's conscientious scruples, but now that they cannot push forward, as they have done most indecorously and unconstitutionally, the personality of the King, they will set themselves to raise the "*cri de guerre*" *No popery,—No dissenter*. Mr. Percival will march at the head of one column. Lord Sidmouth will command the other. It is already said that he intends to renew his motion respecting the qualifications of Dissenting preachers. Even the church patronage of Dr. Bell's exclusive system of education in opposition to the national and comprehending plan of Joseph Lancaster, is a proof of the extreme alarm which is now propagated by the Percival party. Amidst the prejudices of one set, and the pretensions of another, the Prince Regent has occasion to exercise much self-government; and a great part of the apparent mysteriousness and ambiguity that clouds his secret wishes, may proceed from the extreme difficulty of maintaining his popularity on both sides of the channel, and his anxiety to accomplish a civil union, and a religious concordat in one united and indivisible empire.

The speech of the Prince Regent

bears some marks of a compromise between opposite opinions. It considers things inversely as to their magnitude and importance. It celebrates the conquest of Java, the Walcheren of the East; and it cries hush, as to the condition of Ireland. As if the questions in the courts of law, were a cause sufficient to suspend all consideration of a most momentous state affair in the Houses of Legislature; as if Ireland, even at present, was not worthy of a thought, but as a subject of revenue, utterly forgetting that the amplest fund of revenue, is the rights of the people, and the best resource, the hearts of the population. A penurious old fellow of our acquaintance, when pressed to lay some manure upon his fields, exhausted and barren, "Ah! believe me," he used to reply, "there is no manure equal to the *nitre of the air*." And so it is with our farming financiers. They wish for ample crops of revenue, but when the melioration of human condition is recommended, they have not the heart or the head to foresee its effects, and they recur to their *nitre of the air*, the clemency of the skies, and the mercy of Heaven.

Sir Francis Burdett, in his high character as a representative of the people, did not deem it proper, at such a season, to give place to the ministerial mover of the address, and having attracted the eye of the Speaker, and secured the ear of the house, he proposed an answer to the speech of the Regent, an address containing a candid and energetic exposition of the state of the nation, the causes of its calamities, external and internal, and their specific cure—an adequate representation of the people in parliament. This will stand at least in the records of the House of Commons, and posterity will judge of its truth.—(*See the Documents.*)

Lord Grenville, in the upper-house, and Mr. Ponsonby, in the lower, spoke in determined language respecting Catholic emancipation. The matter is nearly come to that point from which there seems no safe retreat, no shift of state policy, no diplomatique duplicity. The time is arrived when our Catholic countrymen and fellow-subjects, are to be admitted into a full and *final* participation of the privileges of the British constitution; such a participation, as can alone, unite indissolubly all the subjects of this empire in a common interest, a mutual affection, and a cordial and enthusiastic co-operation in the defence of their common country. While five millions of Irishmen are, in the most important, or in the most *trifling* point, degraded below the level of British subjects, there can only be nominal union, and practical subjection.

The only relationship which ought at all times to have subsisted, and which, henceforth, can subsist, between Britain and Ireland, is the relationship of complete equality, and reciprocal rights. The subject has received ample and repeated discussion. Eloquence has impressed. Reason is convinced. Without deciding whether the CATHOLIC CLAIM rests upon absolute and indefeasible right, or upon political expediency, or upon state policy, or upon hard necessity, we would presume to say, that on each, and upon ALL of these grounds, the season is arrived for the grant of this claim. Justice requires it. Honest and honourable policy require it. The constitution warrants it. The crisis of public affairs, imperatively demands it, and Divine Providence is ready to bless it in the resulting harmony, tranquillity, and welfare of all Ireland.

God tolerates all religions. Man

persecutes all but his own. Even when his laws cease to be penal, he clogs the emancipation with terms, conditions, and reservations. We have heard of various checks, and other suitable arrangements in the nomination of Bishops. We presume to think, without recurring to distinctions between domestic and foreign nomination, that a full and sufficient security for loyalty is placed in the oath of allegiance administered to all official authority, and under its awful sanction, there can be no danger to church and state as by law established. The Royal negative would assuredly place the whole Catholic Hierarchy under the influence of the minister. The resistance to the Veto is from Catholics, and not less from Irishmen.

Indeed we think it one fortunate circumstance, that the love of country in the Catholic breast, is strengthened, confirmed, and consolidated by their attachment to their *religion*. We do fear that Protestants, in *their* situation, would have been long ago seduced and scattered into dust. It is their religion that has kept the Catholics safe from political corruption, that has preserved their patriotic as well as their religious *unity*, and their Irish integrity and wholeness; while many other descriptions of their countrymen have lost their feelings for the public, and are dissolved into individual selfishness.

The establishment of the respective households for the King, the Queen, and the Prince Regent has been brought before parliament. The sum total of influence is increased, although it is in some measure divided into separate parcels; yet it is evident that the influence to be obtained through the two former is intended to hold in check the Prince Regent, and if possible force an ad-

herence to the present men, and the system of measures so long pursued. We hear of the magnificent era, which is to commence under the patronage of the Prince, and that we are to have the reign of the fine arts under the sanction and example of a sumptuous and luxurious court. Such things will become the present crisis. An unreflecting people may be amused by this pageantry, the few professors of the arts, who are employed, as also the admirers of them, may extol the munificence of the Prince, but the people, already overburdened with taxes, who have to pay for all, will have cause to complain, if their comforts are farther abridged to support this expense. A splendid court, a bankrupt state, and a distressed people form an assemblage of discordant materials, which do not promise a prolongation of tranquillity.

The murders of two families in London, Marr's and Williamson's, with many other enormities of less degrees of criminality, have occasioned much alarm, and manifested the too general shocking depravity of morals, and the ineffectual state of the police. Secretary Ryder, moved for a committee to examine into the state of the nightly watch. An amendment was proposed to extend the inquiry to the police. But still little effectual good will be likely to be achieved by this committee. The causes lie deep, and our state quacks are unwilling to go deep in examining into the grounds of the evils. Sir Samuel Romilly pointed out a defective system of jurisprudence, tending rather to permit crimes to increase, than effectually to remove the causes, which produced them. Sir Francis Burdett likewise animadverted on this subject. His remarks on moving his address are also applicable to this point. He allowed due merit to the

benevolent plans for teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic more generally to the poor. These he admitted were good in their places, and so far as they prepared for higher instruction, in the principles of freedom and independence. Thus a nation should educate its people. By such means, can the energies and virtues of a people be best brought out. A virtuous government and a virtuous people would reciprocally act and re-act on each other, and produce the highest sum of benefit. There is sometimes a beauty in the radical meaning of words. Education is derived from the Latin, *educere* to bring out. We may thus catch a comprehensive meaning, which leads us to perceive the importance of education rightly understood, and conducted on a principle commensurate with its high import. Lancaster and Bell may do much to prepare the way, but instruction of a higher nature is necessary to construct a durable improvement.

Much prejudice, and disgusting illiberality were apparent on the late alarms in the British metropolis. The Cockneys were nearly frightened out of their wits, and in the insanity of the moment, raved about employing a military guard to protect them, forgetting the danger of raising the military above the civil power. Of the evils attendant on this system we know too much in Ireland from sad experience, to desire to see further experiments tried. In London a periodical mania sometimes seizes the people epidemically, and in the paroxysm of the moment, they forget all considerations, except those suggested by their fears. On some occasions, the fear of mad dogs has been endemic, and then dogs of the most harmless natures have been indiscriminately sacrificed to quiet their

apprehensions. Again they are afraid of being all murdered by midnight ruffians, and then two of their bad, and illiberal prejudices are indulged to a shameful extent, their dislike to foreigners, and to the Irish.

At first the Portuguese were the objects of their unjust suspicions. Then the cry is raised against the poor Irish, who almost without distinction become objects of dread. Magistrates even insult those under judicial examination, and require, that they shall cross themselves before they will believe their oaths. It is cause of regret, that so much vulgar prejudice exists among the English, and that not altogether confined to the uninstructed classes. They who endeavour to analyze motives, and trace them up to their origin, are inclined to think that these prejudices are deducible from their arrogant claims of self-importance, and the consequent low estimation in which they hold all other nations, faults which are too conspicuous in the English national character, and which have been the causes of many of their misfortunes. A less assuming port might have kept them from showing their rancour and envy against France, and preserved them from the calamities they have brought on themselves, by nineteen years of unproductive and destructive warfare, the offspring of their meddling disposition, and their Antigallican prejudices. A less arrogant conduct towards Ireland, both on the part of government, and of the bulk of the people, would have been better calculated to bind up in the ties of brotherly affection, and to produce an ample return of kindness and conciliation on the part of the Irish.

Owing to the long delay in the Baltic, in hopes of getting admission into the Swedish ports for the

merchant vessels, that part of the navy destined to that service, staid in those northern seas, till the stormy weather had set in. They were farther inconvenienced by having no friendly port in which to take shelter. Distressing shipwrecks have in consequence occurred on the coast of Holland, and several ships belonging to the British navy have been lost.

Mexico, and the adjacent countries, seem likely to work out their independence. That portion of South America formerly under the power of Spain, bids fair also to attain a similar state. The prospects of those who espouse the side of revolution, appear to brighten, and it is likely we may shortly have to announce the formation of a South American Republic.

In the mean time, a truce appears to have taken place between the two rival settlements of Buenos Ayres and Monte Video, so as for a season mutually to recognize the phantom of authority of Ferdinand VII.; or in other words, to admit the supremacy of Old Spain. Yet notwithstanding this temporary truce, the separation of Spanish America from the mother country, appears in the course of justice and of nature, to be at no great distance.

The motions on the state of Ireland, of which notice has been given in both houses, have been postponed for a few days, in consequence of a domestic calamity affecting those who were to bring forward the motions. Much depends on the event of these motions, and on the course which the known friends of the Prince Regent, as indicative of his present mind, will take. It will then be seen, whether he retains his former professions in favour of emancipation. The present is a period of awful suspense.

Emancipation to be of real service to the Catholic, should be immediate, complete and unconditioned, unclogged with reservations, but with a generous confidence conceding to their just claims, and trusting to the grateful returns of affection, and the good effects of unanimity; so that no distinction should any longer remain between Catholic and Protestant. We have long lived connected in all the charities of private life, and we feel no cause for distrust in the full extension of equal privileges.

To ask the Catholics to concede to a Protestant government a power to interfere in the election of their prelates, is an undue interference with their religious opinions. It is almost as unreasonable as to ask them to become Protestants at once. It is also an encroachment on their civil as well as their religious liberty, for the power of the Veto would soon be used as an engine in the hands of government, in abridgment of civil liberty. It would therefore be a most unfavourable turn, in the Catholic question, if a compromise of this kind should be insisted on, and granted. It would entail endless disputes in future. A conditioned, half-granted, and half-reserved measure, would rob concession of all its advantages.

The event of the trials in Dublin will be likely to prove favourable to the cause of liberality, let them terminate in conviction or acquittal. A considerable and respectable class in England still retain prejudices against conceding to Catholics their just rights. These will see the illiberal attempts to force convictions, and judging impartially between the two parties, will be gradually brought to incline to the side of liberality and justice.

A few of the Subscriptions which were returned for Peter Finnerty, have not been paid to the Collectors. As that account is immediately to be closed, it is intended to publish in the next number, the names of those whose

subscriptions remain unpaid. To prevent any mistakes, it is recommended to those who have paid to any other persons, to see that they have handed the amount to the collectors.

DOCUMENTS.

At an adjourned Meeting of friends to Education, held the 7th day of December, 1811. JOHN LELAND MAQUAY, ESQ. in the chair. The Committee appointed at a former meeting submitted Resolutions, which having been discussed and amended, the following were agreed to:—

1st. Resolved, That the education of the poor of Ireland, is a grand object, which every Irishman anxious for the welfare and prosperity of his country, ought to have in view, as the basis upon which its morals and true happiness can be best secured.

2d. Resolved, That for the accomplishment of this great work, Schools should be opened, divested of all sectarian distinctions in any part of the arrangement.

3d. Resolved, That to forward this measure, we deem it expedient that a society be formed, and it be denominated, "The Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor of Ireland."

4th. Resolved, That this Society shall consist of all such persons as may contribute by donation or annual subscription, in a sum to be determined upon hereafter.

5th. Resolved, That the Society shall receive communications, and maintain a correspondence upon all subjects which may tend to further the objects of its formation—give information and assistance to local associations for the fitting up of School-houses upon a suitable plan, and facilitate the providing of teachers properly qualified, as also the procuring of books, and other necessary articles.

6th. Resolved, That economy and method being primary considerations in such undertakings, the attention of the Society shall be particularly directed to the arrangement made in those respects in the several schools now conducting in this country upon the plan of Mr Joseph Lancaster, which plan appears to us well calculated to meet the circumstances of the poor of Ireland.

7th. Resolved That a subscription be now opened for promoting the object of this Society, and that all the private bankers of this city, together with the following Gentlemen, John Leland Maquay,